

THAW TAKEN TO MATTEWAN

Arouses Great Curiosity among the Patients at State Criminal Insane Hospital.

EXPECTS LIBERTY VERY SOON

Two Noted Attorneys Appeared at the Asylum Sunday—Family Will See Thaw Has Special Means and Delicacies—Placed in Observation Ward.

Matteawan, N. Y., Feb. 2.—Harry K. Thaw began to-day the routine of a simple life which the authorities at the State Hospital for the Criminal Insane will make his long stay in the Tombs prison in New York city seem like the height of gaiety in comparison. The new patient in the observation ward slept soundly last night, the presence of the 50 other men in the dormitory not giving him the slightest concern. It was after the usual retiring hour when Thaw reached the hospital last night and he immediately went to bed. He arose this morning at six o'clock, much refreshed and ate a hearty breakfast at the "kitchen and fork table." Only 54 men out of the more than 700 in the institution are allowed this privilege, the others being restricted to spoons. About 500 men were in the main dining room when Thaw reached the breakfast table to-day and he was the center of attraction. The novelty of the noted patient's presence had not worn off by dinner time and he was compelled again to eat under the scrutiny of many eyes. No arrangements for specially prepared meals have yet been made for him. Thaw shared the hospital fare with all the others. His dinner included roast pork, potatoes, sauerkraut, bread, butter, and coffee.

ATTENDED DIVINE SERVICES.

At 3 p.m. Thaw attended divine services in the hospital auditorium, or theatre, conducted by the Rev. Harry Sheldon, pastor of the Fishkill Landing Methodist Episcopal Church. One hundred patients were present and Thaw had expressed a desire to attend. Unless patients especially request it, they do not attend the Sunday religious services which are conducted by ministers of various denominations. During the day Thaw declared to one of the attendants that he would not be in the hospital more than one week. He said his lawyers would sue out a writ of habeas corpus in his behalf and he was sure he would be allowed his liberty as the result of a hearing in court or an inquiry before a commission.

Thaw's picture and measurements for the hospital records will be taken during the early part of the week. He already has given his age to the authorities as 37 years. During his stay in the observation ward, prior to being assigned to some particular division and to private quarters, Thaw will be under the immediate supervision of Dr. Amos T. Baker, one of the medical assistants to Superintendent Lamb. Dr. Baker said to-day he would not allow Thaw to have liquor and tobacco unless his condition seemed to demand them for a time in medical moderation.

HAD LOTS OF MONEY.

Thaw brought a large sum of money with him to the hospital, but finding he would not be allowed its custody, handed it to a newspaper man who turned it over to his counsel. During the week provision will be made by the family for special meals and table delicacies for Thaw, the money being placed in the hands of the authorities. At five o'clock this morning Dr. Britton E. Evans of Morris Plains, N. J., and Dr. Smith Jelliffe of New York, alienists, arrived at the hospital. They were employed by the defense in both trials of Harry K. Thaw, and while both evaded questions regarding their presence here, it is said they came at the instigation of Mrs. William Thaw to examine her son and be prepared with evidence when habeas corpus proceedings are brought up to liberate him. "We just had a Sunday off," said Dr. Evans, who declared at the first trial that Thaw had a "brain storm," "so we came up to see Harry."

THE ACQUITTAL OF THAW.

Removed to Matteawan As an Insane Man—Will Soon Be at Liberty.

New York, Feb. 2.—Adjourned guilty of the murder of Stanford White by reason of insanity at the time the fatal shots were fired, Harry Kendall Thaw yesterday was held by the court to be a dangerous lunatic and was whisked away to the State hospital for the criminal insane at Matteawan. It was a quick transition from the dingy little cell in the Tombs, which had been the young man's home for more than 18 months, to the white-bedded wards of the big insane asylum, tucked away on the snow-covered banks of the Hudson river, 50 miles above the city.

The verdict came after 25 hours of waiting, and when everyone connected with the case had abandoned all hope in this or any other trial. Four hours after the foreman's lips had framed the words "not guilty," with the accompanying insanity clause, Thaw, protesting he was sane, was on his way to Matteawan. A little after midnight he had been received in the institution under commitment papers which directed his detention "until discharged by course of law."

No more unwilling patient ever made a journey to a State institution. Thaw's train on its way to Fishkill Landing, where a carriage was taken to Matteawan, passed beneath the very walls of Sing Sing, but at no time since his arrest on the night of June 25, 1896, had the young Pittsburgh millionaire ever held the thought that he would see the inside of that famous prison, and he heeded it not.

The first thrill of the words of acquittal brought Thaw to his feet in the court room, and, with that lack of grace of action which always has characterized his movements, he awkwardly, almost laughingly, bowed his acknowledgments to the 12 jurymen as they were discharged by the court. A smile played about his pallid features and there was every reason to believe that he was

entirely pleased with the outcome.

THAW HATED TO GO.

It was after he had heard Justice Dowling committing him to Matteawan on the ground that his release, in the opinion of the court, would endanger the public safety and after the elation of the verdict had died away, that Thaw rebelled. He commanded his attorneys immediately to sue out a writ of habeas corpus to have his sanity tested before he was sent away to the institution where the insane of criminal tendencies are confined. Mrs. William Thaw, from her hotel, where she had received over the telephone the news of the trial's end, joined in the demand of her son.

Martin W. Littleton, whose conduct of the case as chief counsel for the defense had won so much favorable comment, finally prevailed against the wishes of the mother, indicating to her that he believed it would be better for the present to obey the mandate of the court.

Justice Dowling, it was said, had been consulted in the matter after he had signed his order of commitment and informally had advised Thaw's counsel against making an immediate contest. The prisoner's consent was not won until after a lively scene with his counsel and his wife, the latter pleading with him for more than an hour to be content for a time at least, with what fate had given him.

Under promise that some action speedily would be taken looking to the appointment of a commission to inquire into his present sanity or for his transfer to a private institution where his wife and other members of his family might reside with him, Thaw consented to go without further protest.

THAW MADE STATEMENT.

On his way to Matteawan Thaw dictated the following authorized statement to a representative of the Associated Press:

"I am perfectly sane now, but I am going to Matteawan on the advice of my counsel, who thought it unwise to sue for a writ of habeas corpus at this time. Counsel will proceed in the matter of my release just as soon as they can get together the proofs they will present that I am at present sane. I am confident that my stay at Matteawan will be for a short period of time only."

Thaw was accompanied from the Tombs to the Grand Central railroad station by his wife and Josiah Thaw, his brother. Attorneys A. Russell Peabody and Daniel O'Reilly went with him to Matteawan. Mr. Littleton is understood to have talked very plainly to Thaw while the subject of suing out a writ of habeas corpus was under discussion. Upon an exception filed by Mr. Littleton Justice Dowling had granted a delay until nine o'clock in the execution of the commitment papers, so that counsel might consult with the defendant. Mr. Littleton informed Thaw, it was stated, that "there is such a thing as public sentiment in New York city."

RECEPTION OF THE VERDICT.

Thaw was taken from the prison to the court house at 10:30 o'clock. Justice Dowling finally arrived at 11:35 o'clock and went to his chambers.

It was 12:40 when the persons who were waiting outside had begun to think that the trial would result in a further disagreement, that the word was brought from the jury room by Capt. Lynch that the jury wished to make a report to Justice Dowling.

They had to wait but three minutes before the jury itself came from the back of the court room and filed into the box.

It was a tired-looking lot of men that walked slowly up the side aisle and took their seats in the jury box. Arthur Naething, who sat in seat No. 2, was apparently so tired that he was almost on the verge of collapse.

"Have you reached a verdict, gentlemen?" asked Clerk Penny.

"We have," replied Foreman Grummett. "We find the defendant, Harry K. Thaw, not guilty on the ground of his insanity at the time of the commission of the act."

Thaw and his attorneys smiled broadly and began to shake hands. Evelyn sat with her mouth still open. Then she choked and commenced to sob, for the first time since the beginning of the trial the tears trickled down her face. Then the silence was broken by a loud handclapping.

"Take that man into custody and keep him," said Justice Dowling. One of the court officers went into the hall where Evelyn was sitting and took out a tall, light-haired young man who had been responsible for the disturbance. It turned out afterwards that he was Theodore Roosevelt Pell, a nephew of President Roosevelt. After the dismissal of the jury he was fined \$25.

JUDGE PREPARED FOR ACQUITTAL.

It was apparent that Judge Dowling was prepared for the verdict. He complimented the jury on their faithfulness throughout the trial and said he knew that they had given the case fair and conscientious consideration. He then said:

"The jury having found a verdict based on insanity of the defendant," he said, "a duty devolves upon the court. The testimony in this case, so far as it shows insanity, shows that it is of the kind known as mania-depressive. It appears that recurrence of these outbreaks is certain, or at least reasonably certain. The period between them can not be judged or even guessed at. There has been no testimony in this case which shows any possibility of a cure being effected."

"In a maniacal form and aggravated form of this disease, there is a grave danger of assaults or murders. In the depressive form, there is a danger that the patient will commit suicide. Upon the testimony of the court is satisfied to put the defendant at large would be dangerous to the community."

"The decision of the court is that the defendant shall not now be discharged, but being in custody, shall be so held, and committed with all dispatch to the State hospital for the criminal insane at Matteawan. The sheriff of the county is directed to take custody of the defendant and deliver him to the State authorities at Matteawan."

The law provides that once a defendant is found not guilty—even with the insanity clause attached—he may not again have his life placed in jeopardy. If Thaw can convince a commission, or the State board of lunacy, as may be the case, that he is sane and no longer to be regarded as a menace to the public safety, he will be given his liberty.

REQUIRED 11 BALLOTS.

The jurors interviewed at the court house would not divulge the secrets of their proceedings, other than to say that 14 ballots were required before the unanimous verdict of not guilty on the ground of insanity was reached. At three o'clock counsel for Thaw announced that they would make no move for a commission at this time or for a transfer to another asylum.

Thaw was cheered by a crowd of several hundred persons as he was whisked away from the Tombs in his wife's automobile. If he heard, he paid no heed. The man who was so filled with

SPECIAL.

All this and next week we will give absolutely

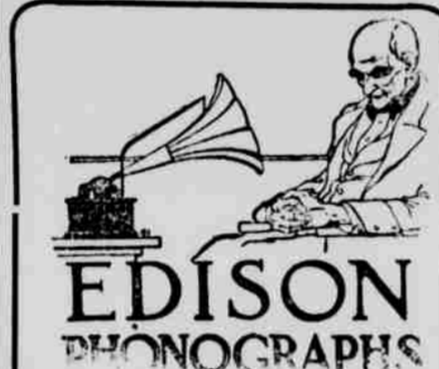
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deputies and counsel that neither Thaw nor his wife was visible to the waiting throngs.

Few people at the Grand Central station knew of Thaw's coming, and the party was little noticed. A special car was attached to the regular 4:30 express over the New York Central, but there was a delay in the departure of the train. Thaw smoked and talked with his counsel throughout the journey.

Daniel O'Reilly announced at Fishkill Landing that when a writ of habeas corpus is sued out in Thaw's behalf, if such action shall be decided upon in the near future, the application probably will be made at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., the county seat of Dutchess, in which Matteawan is situated.

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A HUGHES IMPROVEMENT FOR VERMONT. (From the Fair Haven Era.)

Vermont is not in need of commissions. She has for years had far too many of them and yet she needs today far more than ever a public service commission.

New York seems to have had up to the advent of Charles E. Hughes very much the same conditions that have prevailed here for this and the other thing that, owing to their want of power, amounted to little or nothing. The difference between the two States is that New York appears to have gotten rid of hers while Vermont still retains hers and they are all doing business in the same old way at the same old stand.

Other States in the Union are taking their cue from the Empire State and why not this State? We may not have so many nor so large operations as New York but we still have enough to give opportunity for improvement and it is time we caught step and traveled along with the procession.

In New York State we understand that party politics have been eliminated from the make-up of the commission. That of course would be a difficult thing to do in pick-ridden republican Vermont and yet it might be possible to find one well-qualified democrat to work in line with, say, two republicans. This is not suggested for the purpose of giving the other fellow a show but for the purpose of putting ability and citizenship ahead of party politics, something done altogether too rarely in Vermont.

Such a commission, as the one proposed should take the "heat" of about all the State has at present, and there is no good reason why it cannot look after the railroads, the highways, the schools and in fact anything in the State that needs to be looked after. Why couldn't such a commission have the power to straighten out the matter of taxation and fix the percent of appraisal of property referred to elsewhere by the Bennington Banner, adjust difficulties that arise between labor and capital, protect communities, attend to the regulation and control of electric lighting companies, the fixing of rates for the trans-

portation of freight and for electric service, the safeguarding of public life and do a hundred or more things that to-day remain undone because none of the dozen or more commissions have the authority to do much of anything but draw salaries for their members? The commission has done things in New York because it had the power given to it by the Legislature to do them. A commission here would have to have the same power secured in the same way. The securing of it might mean the breaking away from traditions but it is full time that Vermont broke away from some of hers and came out into the open sunlight, where the people might get a good look at the grand old State and not be forever moving at the beck of party leaders, whose sole object in life is to dominate their party so as to control the best paying offices.

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